

Economic Development Committee Minutes
March 5, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lawler; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, Johnson, Kinowski, Lewza, Richardson, Sausville, Lunde, and Martin; Ryan Moore, Deputy Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Craig Hayner, Shauna Sutton, County Clerk; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Bill Schwerd, Cooperative Extension; Kim Finnegan, CEG; Press.

Chairman Lawler called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the January 7, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Kemper said there was a Zim Smith Trail Use Policy that was established. He said he has received a number of requests for not for profits or groups to have benefits with rides or races on the Zim Smith Trail. With assistance from the County Attorney a review of the existing policy was made with a couple of samples from some of the municipalities and State parks to try to adopt the strong points of all those applications into a possible new Zim Smith Trail Use Policy which would include a Special Trail Use Permit that would be administered out of the Planning Office.

Mr. Richardson said he has been working with the Mechanicville Community Center and the YMCA in Clifton Park where they are looking to run a 10 mile race beginning approximately half way down the Zim Smith Trail ending in Mechanicville.

Mr. Lawler suggested considering the policy as written with the option for the Planning Director to waive the fee for not for profits.

Mr. Kemper suggested waiving the fee and charging a refundable \$100 deposit and leaving the policy as written.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve charging a \$100 refundable deposit, with no fee and leaving the Zim Smith Trail Policy as written. Unanimous.

Mrs. Scaccia said the Veterans Employment Conference will be held on March 12, 2014 at the Empire State College. She said the Employment and Training office has helped twenty five Veterans prepare their resumes for the event where there will be fifteen employers with job opportunities.

Mrs. Scaccia introduced the Disability Employment Initiative. She said last year the State asked if Employment and Training wanted to apply for funds and they did. The program is to help individuals with disabilities get back to work. The funds will bring three disability resource

coordinators, one into Saratoga County, Washington County and Warren County. Saratoga County is the grant recipient and released a request for proposal for the position. A great response was received from the Rehabilitation Initiative LLC, which is based in Albany. She said she, two center directors and the executive director of the WIB reviewed applications and selected the Rehabilitation Initiative LLC mainly because they had just finished a project in the capital region WIB where they were very successful in getting people back to work, and because their owner had over thirty years of experience working with people with disabilities.

Mrs. Scaccia requested permission to select Rehabilitation Initiative to provide three staff members. Saratoga County, being the grant recipient, will pass through the money to the other two counties in order for them to pay for their person. The grant is for three years, going from April 1, 2014 through January 31, 2017. The approximate amount for the grant for the three county area is \$640,000. Saratoga County's share will be approximately \$280,000, over the three year period. Mrs. Scaccia said the county budget will have to be amended for April through December 2014 in the amount of \$157,932.

A motion was made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Richardson to authorize the acceptance of a three year NYS Department of Labor grant in the amount of \$640,000 for the Disability Employment Initiative in Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties, and authorizing the necessary agreements for Rehabilitation Initiatives, LLC to provide the services funded through this grant and amending the 2014 budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Lawler introduced Ms. Finnegan from CEG. He said the Economic Development Committee and the Board of Supervisors, Town of Malta, Global Foundries, Stillwater, and IDA are working hard to get the traffic study done and contributing toward the cost of the study. He said CEG is going to coordinate and manage the process and it has been agreed upon by all the participants in order to make it official and advance it to the next stage of actually getting the funds. There has to be a grant and program administered, and that has to be agreed to by all the parties, which means that there has to be a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that all the parties become a party to and agree to. The challenge today is to recognize that CEG will do the administration for the grant and the project for the study, and to pass a resolution to forward to Law and Finance authorizing the execution of the MOU.

Ms. Finnegan said the outstanding issues were that there were understandings with Global Foundries that preceded the MOU. The party wanted to make sure that they were not superseded by the MOU.

A motion was made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Lewza to authorize the Chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of conducting a regional Traffic Study in Saratoga County in the area impacted by development in the area approximate to Luther Forest Technology Campus subject to approval by the County Attorney. Unanimous.

Mr. Moore said the budget impact statement is, none. The County's \$50,000 share of the study was previously in the 2014 to 2018 Saratoga County Capital Budget.

Ms. Daly said the CRC has a meeting scheduled on March 11, 2014 to move ahead with an application from Skidmore College.

Mr. Lawler introduced the Strategic Economic Development Plan for Saratoga County stating that there is an extremely comprehensive and well thought out draft of the plan that really met the challenges that were presented to the consultant and is reflective of all the contributions and hard work of the committee members and more than 100 individuals that were met with, representing every part of Saratoga County's economy and all of the different groups that worked together on behalf of Saratoga County for economic development.

Mr. Lawler said he was thrilled to see the level of detail and the careful consideration that the consultant gave to everyone who was involved in the process. Mr. Lawler thanked the committee for their commitment to the process of putting together the Draft Strategic Economic Development Plan for Saratoga County.

Mr. Lawler said if the committee is comfortable with the Draft Strategic Economic Development Plan, he proposed sending it on to the Law and Finance Committee as a draft for their review and comments and then forwarding it to the full Board of Supervisors meeting on March 18th for approval.

Mr. Lewza said the process should move forward as soon as possible without delay. He said after his review of the draft document he was pleased with what the consultants had put together.

On a motion made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Daly, Mr. Grattidge, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kinowski, Mr. Lewza, and Mr. Richardson the Draft Strategic Development Plan was approved unanimously.

On a motion was made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Richardson the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom